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An

Inaugural Dissertation

on

Phthisis Pulmonalis,

submitted

by

Do^t. Mordecai

Alms House.

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Mr

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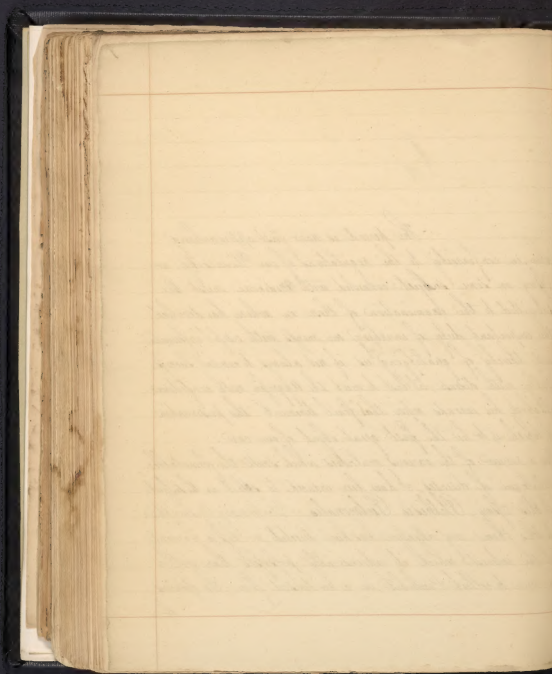
subscribed for

W. W. Smith

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The period is now fast approaching when, in conformity to the regulations of our University, an Essay on some subject connected with Medicine must be submitted to the examination of those, on whom has devolved the important duty of enriching our minds with useful information and thereby of qualifying us if not always to combat successfully with disease; at least to meet the Aggressor with confidence. He checks his invasions upon that "frail tabernacle", the preservation of which is to be the first great object of our care.

On a review of the various maladies which swell the formidable catalogue of diseases, I have been induced to select as the subject of this essay, *Phthisis Pulmonalis* or Pulmonary Consumption. To this theme my attention has been divided, no less on account of the interest which it intrinsically possesses, than with a view to collect & exhibit, in a condensed form, the opinions
of

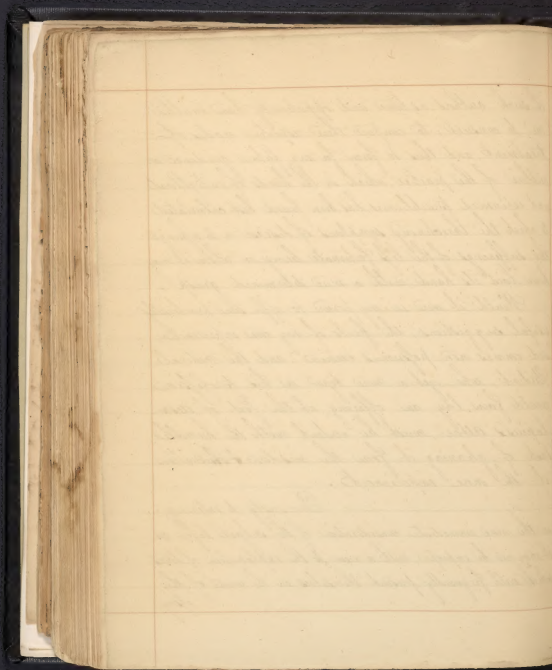


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of such authors, as time and opportunity have enabled me to consult; to compare their respective modes of treatment, and thus to form for my future guidance an outline of the practice, which, in the hands of enlightened and experienced practitioners, has been found best calculated to check the threatening symptoms of disease & to assuage the sufferings of the less fortunate being, on whom it may have laid its hand with a more determined grasp.

Should it were in my power to offer some practically useful suggestions, the fruits of my own experience; sed omnes non possumus omnia and the medical student, who, yet a mere tyro in his profession, would fain lay an offering at the foot of Esculapius's altar, must be content with the humble task of glancing it from the wisdom & observation of the more experienced.

Previously to entering on the more immediate consideration of the subject before us it may not be improper, with a view to the explanation of terms which will frequently present themselves, in the course of this essay



Essay, to premise a few remarks on the nature, origin
and peculiarities of Pus & the distinguishing cha-
racteristics of Pus and Mucus. And first
Of Pus and Mucus.

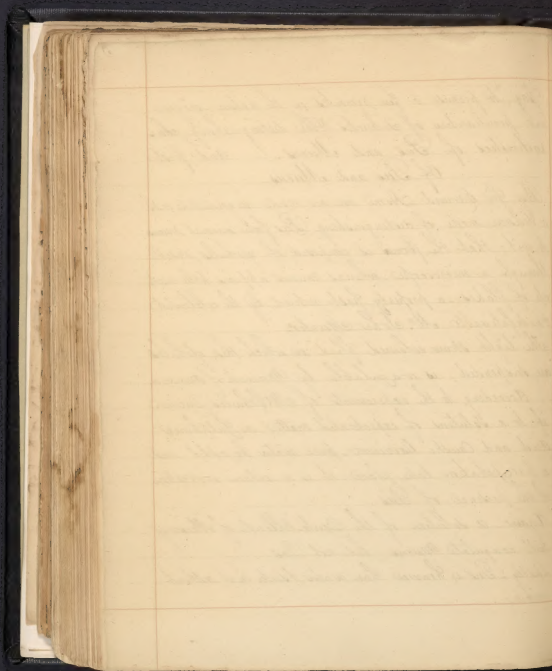
By Sir Edward Home we are made acquainted with
a decisive mode of distinguishing Pus from animal mucus,
to wit; that the former is composed of globules, visible
through a microscope, whereas mucus appears to be made
up of flakes; - a property first noticed by the celebrated
& indefatigable Mr. John Hunter.

The light straw coloured fluid in which these globules
are suspended, is coagulable by Muriate of ammonia.

According to the experiments of Mr. Charles Darwin
if to a solution of expectorated matter, in Sulphuric
Acid and Caustic Lixivium, pure water be added, and
a precipitation take place, it is a certain indication
of the presence of Pus.

Again, a solution of the Dubl. Chloride of Mercury
will coagulate Mucus, but not Pus.

Lastly, Pus is heavier than water, & sinks in it without
mixing.



Of Tubercles.

These were formerly imagined to be indurated glands, but anatomical investigation has shown the incorrectness of this opinion, and demonstrated that there is no glandular structure in the cellular connecting membrane of the lungs; on the inside of the branches of the Trachea, where follicles do exist, tubercles have never been seen. (vide Baillie's Medical Anatomy.) These bodies, at first inconsiderable in size, gradually increase in magnitude, their ordinary bulk being that of a garden pea. Though in some rare instances, they attain the size of a nutmeg. When opened their structure appears to be cartilaginous, sometimes hard, at others discharging a grumous matter resembling that which issues from the cut surfaces of scrofulous ulcers: as the disease advances, this discharge becomes more decidedly purulent and a greater quantity of matter is contained in each tubercle; when they have increased considerably in size, several are united & the larger bodies thus formed, are, in technical language, termed *Comicee*..

End

True Tubercular Phthisis according to the observation of
Armstrong, occurs only in persons of a Sanguine Tempera-
ment. You think it questionable whether tubercles are con-
fined in the lungs without an hereditary predisposition
to them: this predisposition consisting in an unusual
irritability of the Capillary Arteries in the cellular mem-
brane of the lungs, which vessels being stimulated by some
cause irritating these organs, may give rise to the produc-
tion of tubercles. It thus lay a foundation for the commence-
ment of Phthisis. We are not to suppose that the disease
manifests itself immediately on the formation of these morbid
tumors, on the contrary they may long remain dormant,
and detection has discovered them even in adult lungs,
where during life there had been little reason to suspect
any pulmonary affection. Their existence may be sus-
pected, whether in consequence of a hoarse, irritable
a short dry hacking cough is readily produced, indicating
the presence of a slight inflammation, which originating
in the mucous membrane of the lungs & extending to
the cellular texture of these organs, deposits the matter of
tubercles.



which these bodies are constituted and as in fact, the
various and repeated irritation, manifested in the formation
of an Abscess. (See End.)

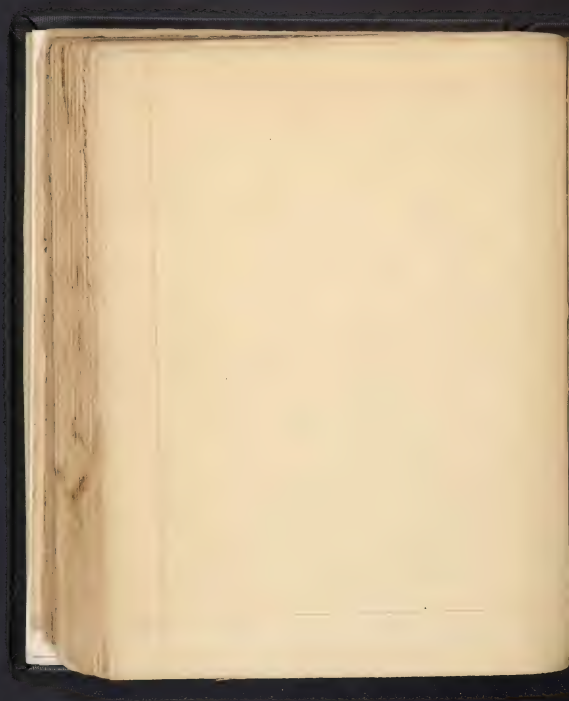
Among the ordinary causes giving rise to Abscesses,
may be enumerated great, abrupt or total, anxiety
of mind, sedentary occupations, all debilitating regimes,
a want of proper nourishment and above all perhaps,
the sudden removal from a warm, to a cold variable
climate. From what source these it may originate
there is a marked diversity in the constitutional ten-
dency to Abscess: in one emphatic language of a
writer on this disease 'the destroying Angel' which
'scurvy, general debility, the various diseases
from which, mark, Barbaux's individuals 'or, primary
'scabies'.

The Characteristics of what was to prove
a consumptive tendency, are a slender frame contracted
chest with prominent shoulders, a predisposition to rheu-
matism, associated in many instances with various indi-
cations of the consumptive diathesis, viz: a fair



complexion; fair or red skin? large eyes, and a constitution characterized by great sensibility to outward impressions: sound teeth with a peculiar degree of whiteness and transparency. have been said to attend upon every species of "consumption"; this, says Dr. Reid, is far from being invariably the case, though he at the same time allows that there is less disposition to cancer:

are peculiarly marking the progress of the decade of a strikingly interesting series, must not be omitted. I allude to the obsequies, approaching almost to insanity, so generally observable in the victims of this wasteful mania. The mind of the individual, suppose invaded in hope and belief of self-impairment, is seized in the same cloud as the mind which can see, for its relief, and turn toward self, a method of reaching a mode of extermination, to which the victim is an involuntary sacrifice, which into the midst of the chaos of symptoms is a single beam of light thrown. The victim then dies, and death, even a momentary respite to the suffering, is to the



in the system, which was maintaining the col-
our, as in youth, the capillary system is denser, the
spirits are supported, and fire & vigor commu-
nicated to the mind: so the same cause may be ascrib-
ed the bright red colour of the tongue is retained.
So different from the appearance of that organ
in other febrile affections. Indeed chronic Dyspepsia
in relation to the healthy state of the mental faculties
in this stage, there is some reason to conjecture that
the enthusiasm of genius and the delicate sensibility
by which leads to a susceptible organization as the
fine arts have never been described in greater perfec-
tion, than when the constitution has been divided & is
marked by that characteristic of the consumptive in
the victims of Tubercular Consumption.
In the carriage of this remark, the same reason
of the literary world has been given, and the
Fetters abolished.



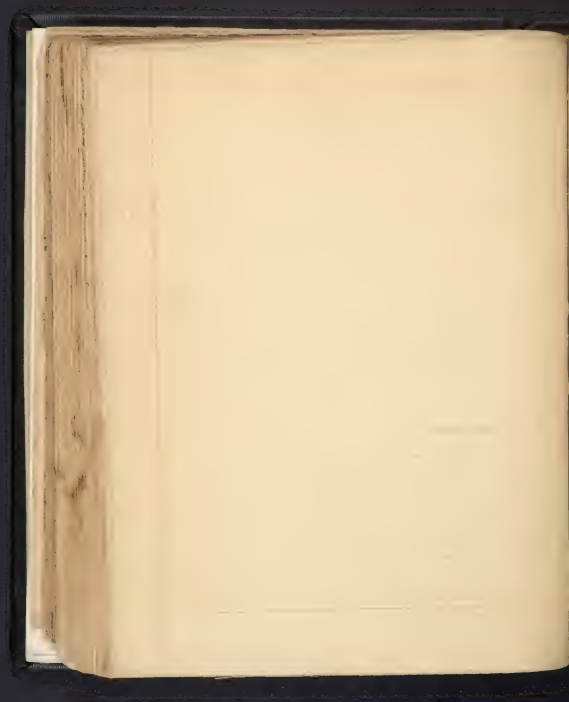
In the Evening, Sunday.

There must be a decided tendency upwards to increase
a nation. We do not mean to say without any apparent
exciting cause. But we cannot, perhaps, be very far from
the conclusion when we are asked to see evidence of it.

Including the death of David Patterson it would be
fair to say that the tendency to death in disease, even
in the present, has suffered so far, positively, subjects to
premature attacks, except in the case of the other kind of
disease, "Pneumonia," and even in that case, the disease
is now being treated by a better and more active life, and the
most part of the population of the city is now
the same.

On the contrary, the extensive congregation of millen-
nium and manufacturers under him, naturally entails a con-
siderable degree of it, that first Britain is declared
deserving to name the list of those that surround it
in its public "assembly" in the extensive world of "Brit-
ain" at the altar of 3 others.

It is the exciting disorder, and is associated, more



the condition; not necessarily, however, as it is not dis-
 scriptive. Although not unfrequently ends in Condemnation, this
 is generally the intermediate stage of the disease, but in Chil-
 dren, almost a short day's cough, even without pain or hoarseness,
 is to be cautiously watched.

At a continuation of the disease, by increasing the growth of the
 lungs in relation to the rest of the body, may induce the
 same effect; in the same way, again, as in the case of
 rickets, it may be induced by an increase of the same organ in size.

It is worthy of remark that, hereditary disease
 sometimes sustains the disease, and while this has been
 the case, it may be said to be a kind of disease, arising
 from an old's feeling; when also by inducing a state
 of disease, has not done to give an original existing
 cause of Condemnation. Condemnation in the embryo is
 some considered a cause, or more properly the consequence
 of the impaired condition of the constitution.

If the former idea be correct it should be remembered
 that an infection not dangerous in itself may prove
 so, if it exist in a constitution, when there is a marked
 history



London to Dublin, and to some other cities
could be made to produce the same effect.

Now, whatever was a preliminary agitation
connected with the disease of the Low Spine
are to be found in a well written paper on the
topic of Consumption, drawn from the pages of "The
Sanitary Magazine" which is to be read as the
time runs, the manuscript came to the same conclusion.

What shall we say next? and to the end of the
nature of consumption, & its effects on health, is the matter
is simple & the question of its cause and its
circumstances, which is Dr. Lush's contribution to the
cause, must also be discussed, & must be important
information to those who are interested in the subject
judicially to consumption, to the cause of an ailment,
to advance, and to live in the same chamber, or con-
stantly to live in the same room, with a phthisical
patient. - Indeed in the contrary, which is
important, absolutely important.

Dr.





the symptoms of Plethore have been very properly directed,
into the suppurations and suppuration: in the case we regard,
it not being requisite that in the congested pectoris in the
mucous form of a Catarrh, a common cold: this is
attended with an increased secretion from the mucous mem-
brane lining the nose, throat and larynx, and is enough
to excite, accompanied with more or less inflammation of
Mucosa. But that is a source of intense irritation, is
shown by the increased frequency of the pulse, the
and infrequent respiration. When we reflect, that the
bronchial lining the nostrils is continuous with that cover-
ing the membrane, not only in the lungs, but in the
arterial membrane, in what manner the inflammatory action
is communicated to these organs, the nature of which is
evidently indicated, by the distressing cough, the distress
of breathing, and the pain, is unsupportable in a fixed point
of the chest, in making a deep inspiration. As the
disease advances the patient will feel increasing pain
in the pectoral chest, night sweat, sickness, as they
not unexpectedly do with the intervening diarrhoea, and in



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females. the suppression of the catamenia, indicate inter-
ference with the process of uterine evolution: this state of
things once established, discouraging as it undoubtedly is,
yet the benevolent practitioner will have sought an-
ticipated that not a friendship was desired, for the mind
is centered on his patient.

There were on a whole a few hundred women
in a room, and a very interesting incident is re-
corded, that is, a death. Under the same circumstances
it is worthy of remark that the disease does not pro-
ceed any further on average. The immorality of England
one generation may escape, and the next see it in full
force. Instances of this are mentioned by Dr. Parrish
in his valuable lectures to his medical class.

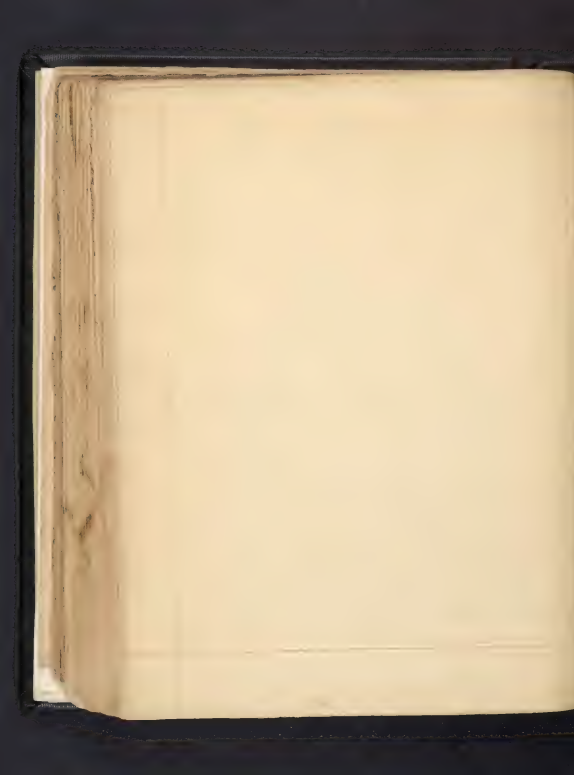
It was then stated that there is generally an unusual
abundance of interest in the latest period of western
law, this gentleman has more under more than one
which terminated in genuine mania.

Having



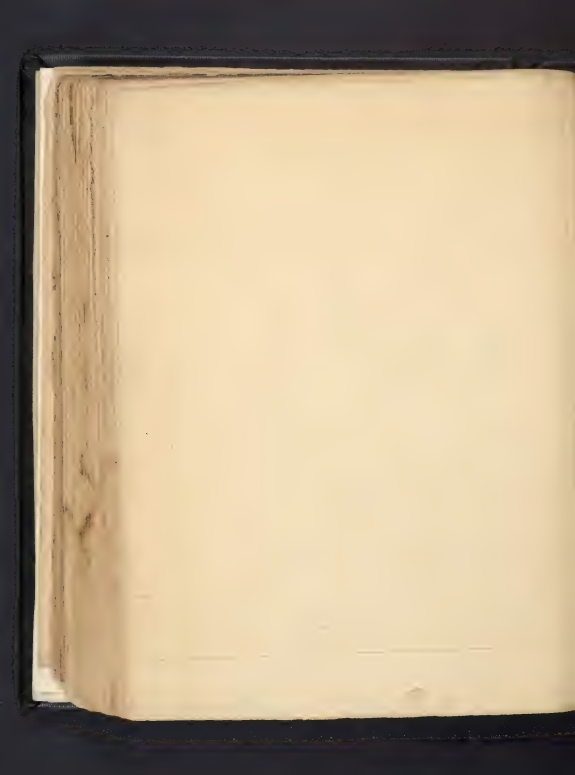


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In a room, a small, narrow, and high
 house, with a very high, the air was
 very warm, and the air was very
 cold, and the house was very
 in the front of the house, and the
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827,



The collection of this case I will take the liberty of writing
abridged in the same manner as Mr. M. who, like the first, is
a volume to be consulted was attached with the female subjects
of children. The first made a number of superficial incisions
from behind the ear a considerable distance from the neck
into these incisions the various ducts were introduced and
were with great attention carefully examined. The first
was a simple & from the process was removed and was
found to have been open in a few & finally reports.
The first was found in the first of the ducts in a strong
position in the region.

The first, previously noticed in the experience of cases,
and from which to conclude the number of cases in
which the ducts of the ducts are well known in the
Cervical. The first is a case of the ducts of the ducts
remained, and the ducts of the ducts are found
in the first & last. But in this case and the first
which is a case of the ducts of the ducts of the ducts
of the ducts is a case of the ducts of the ducts of the ducts
with a view of the ducts in the ducts of the ducts of the ducts



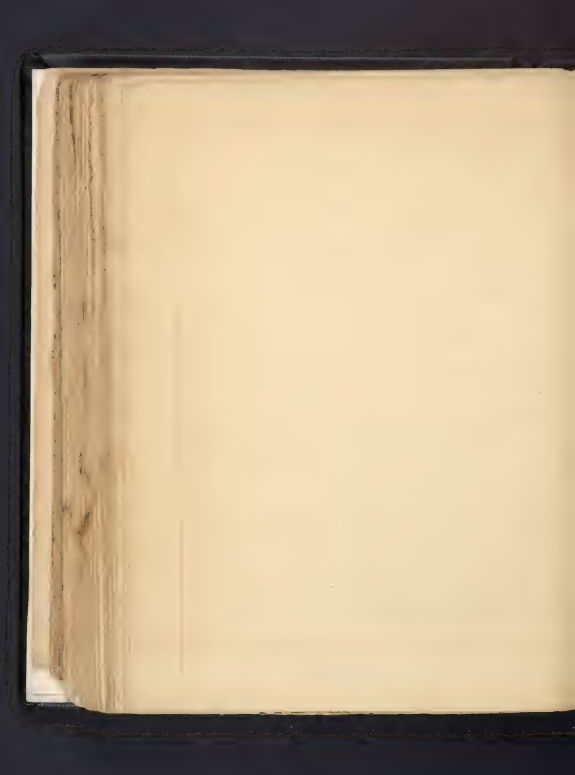
water sufficient to wet a good quantity may be used with
 advantage. It is an active and decided diuretic & has the
 virtue of seducing Dr. Pringle directs it to be continued
 during the period when the urine is too thick. This is
 necessary in nephritis, in order to effect it. It is a diuretic.
 Water is the important and continued solvent of the disease,
 as are the medicinal substances of Lemon Juice & Rhatia.
 a glass of the secretions Stigmata. Still then, a very
 small doses used in the situation of the patient, as
 he is unable to swallow large quantities of the medicine, he
 is a patient who must be treated with great caution, as
 of various kinds of cases there is a great variety of
 kinds of cases and from the state and extent of the disease
 it is necessary to use a variety of medicines in a judicious
 manner. Medicines are best adapted to these cases of acute
 renal cough, when it is not to be advanced, but when it
 is to be advanced to the point of the disease, as in the
 disease, as in the disease, as in the disease, as in the disease,
 of medicine, as in the disease, as in the disease, as in the disease,
 the medicine, as in the disease, as in the disease, as in the disease,











the ill effects of the inclemency of winter.

With these remarks, to which I must again solicit the indulgence of my professors, I take leave of the interesting subject of Pulmonary Consumption.

How long it is destined to retain a station, so conspicuous, among the diseases which are emphatically termed the opprobria Medicinæ; is not for me to conjecture:—its treatment is of acknowledged difficulty, but, in a field where so much remains undone, the well directed efforts of the discreet practitioner may effect not a little. Let us not then despair of success; "From torpid despondency," says the elegant author of the *Adventurer*, "can come no advantage"; it is the frost of the soul which binds up all its powers and congeals life in perpetual sterility. He that has no hopes of success will make no attempts; and where nothing is attempted, nothing can be done".

